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BRITISH VIRGIN ISLANDS

Working paper prepared by the Secretariat

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BRITISH VIRGIN ISLANDS 1/

I. GENERAL

1. The British Virgin Islands comprises nearly 30 islands and islets, 16 of which are inhabited. They cover a total of 153 square kilometres and lie 96 kilometres east of Puerto Rico and 225 kilometres north-west of Saint Kitts and Nevis. The Territory also lies in close proximity to the United States Virgin Islands. The most important islands in the Territory are Tortola (54 square kilometres, the largest in the group), Anegada (38 square kilometres), Virgin Gorda (21 square kilometres) and Jost Van Dyke (9 square kilometres). Peter Island and Cooper Island are mainly holiday resorts. The main airport is situated on Beef Island. Road Town, the capital, is located on Tortola.

2. The climate is subtropical and is moderated by trade winds. The average temperature in winter ranges from 20 to 28 degrees centigrade and in summer from 26 to 31 degrees centigrade. Mean annual rainfall is 1,270 millimetres.

3. At the last census, conducted in 1991, the population was 17,733 (12,034 in 1980), an increase of 47.4 per cent. Local inhabitants totalled 16,749 and non-residents totalled 984. The population of the four main islands was recorded as follows: Tortola, 13,568; Virgin Gorda, 2,495; Anegada, 156; and Jost Van Dyke, 141. The highest levels of population growth, mainly as a result of the influx of migrant workers, were recorded on Virgin Gorda, 76.7 per cent, and on Tortola with 48.8 per cent. The population declined on the island of Anegada from 164 in 1980 to 156 in 1991, and the number of persons living on yachts also declined by 50 per cent (for details see A/AC.109/1100, paras. 3-6).

4. Owing to the Territory's special relationship with the United States Virgin Islands, its residents are exempt from visa requirements of the United States of America when visiting the United States Virgin Islands. As a result of this arrangement, however, the Territory continued to experience some difficulties with illegal immigrants. In June 1992, 10 women and five men from various Caribbean and Latin American countries were apprehended by local authorities. A further 10 persons (9 males and one female) were apprehended in August 1992 and were subsequently deported to their countries of origin. 2/

5. A total of 71 persons became naturalized citizens of the British Dependent Territories (British Virgin Islands) in 1992 under the British Nationality Act of 1981. 3/

II. CONSTITUTIONAL AND POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS

A. Constitution

6. The Territory is administered under the Virgin Islands Constitution Order, 1976, which came into force in 1977 and was amended in 1979 and 1982. The Government consists of a Governor appointed by the Queen, and an Executive Council and a Legislative Council.

7. The Governor, Mr. Peter A. Penfold, is responsible for defence and internal security, external affairs, the civil service and administration of the courts. He acts in consultation with the Chief Minister on these matters. He has reserved legislative powers necessary in the exercise of his special responsibilities. On other matters, however, he is required to act in accordance with the advice of the Executive Council. The Constitution makes provision for the post of Deputy Governor.

8. The Executive Council consists of the Governor as Chairman, the Chief Minister, three other ministers and one ex officio member (the Attorney-General).

9. The Legislative Council consists of a Speaker chosen from outside the Council, one ex officio member (the Attorney-General) and nine elected members returned from single-member constituencies every four years. The Governor appoints as Chief Minister the elected member of the Legislative Council most likely to command a majority in that body. The other ministers are appointed by the Governor on the advice of the Chief Minister and are assigned responsibility for any government business, except in those areas for which the Governor retains responsibility. The Constitution provides for a Deputy Chief Minister and a Leader of the Opposition.

Judiciary

10. The law of the British Virgin Islands is the common law of the United Kingdom, together with locally enacted legislation. It is administered by the Court of Summary Jurisdiction, the Magistrates' Court, the Juvenile Court and, by special arrangement, the Eastern Caribbean Supreme Court, which comprises a High Court of Justice and a Court of Appeal. There is a resident puisne judge whose jurisdiction includes Anguilla.

11. It was reported that Her Majesty in Council had appointed, in October 1992, the Chief Justice of the Eastern Caribbean Supreme Court as a member of the Primary Council, under the Judicial Committee Amendment Act of 1985. During the same month, Ms. Dancia Penn, a national of the Territory, was appointed Attorney-General. Miss Penn visited London from 28 November to 10 December 1992, where she met with representatives of the United Kingdom House of Parliament, the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, Her Majesty's Treasury, the Royal Courts of Justice and the Bank of England. 4/

12. According to press reports, a Visiting High Court Judge and the Attorney-General drew attention to the Territory's need for a court house and prison facilities. Currently, the court sits in the Legislative Council Chambers. 4/

B. Constitutional developments

13. On 23 November 1992, during a special sitting of the Legislative Council to commemorate the twenty-fifth anniversary of ministerial Government in the British Virgin Islands, the Chief Minister and Minister for Finance, Mr. H. Lavity Stoutt, after outlining the major accomplishments and challenges of the Territory, introduced a draft resolution calling for a review of the Constitution, which he said needed some amendment. He emphasized that the

review would not necessarily lead to independence or full internal self-government, and recalled a resolution adopted by the Legislative Council in 1976 which stipulated that should the question of independence or internal self-government be considered, it must be decided by the people. The Speaker of the Legislative Council also emphasized that the motion did not necessarily advocate independence, noting that there were many ways that constitutional reviews could proceed. 5/

14. The Legislative Council adopted the resolution at the same sitting following statements in support by the Deputy Chief Minister and other ministers of the Government. The resolution called for a review of the Constitution of the British Virgin Islands to enhance the participation of the people of the Territory in their efforts to ensure continued advancement and good government. 5/

15. In February 1993, the Chief Minister announced that the Under-Secretary of State in the Foreign and Commonwealth Office had accepted, in principle, the Territory's request for a review of its Constitution. In that connection, Mr. Walter Wallace, a former Governor of the Territory and a special consultant to the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, visited the Territory and held discussions with the Governor, members of the territorial Government and the Opposition. 6/

C. Political parties and elections

16. In the general elections held in the Territory in 1990, the ruling Virgin Islands Party (VIP), led by Mr. Lavity Stoutt, the Chief Minister, won six of the nine elected seats. Voter turnout was 70 per cent. Proxy voting which was introduced for the first time resulted in allegations of irregularities. For further details, see the working paper prepared by the Secretariat in 1991 (A/AC.109/1060, paras. 18-20).

17. In accordance with amendments to the Elections Act of 1977 which, inter alia, allowed for continuous voter registration, the appointment of a Supervisor of Elections and the establishment of a permanent Elections Office, the public was reminded periodically that continuous voter registration remained in effect, and was directed to electoral offices throughout the Territory.

D. Future status of the Territory

1. Position of the territorial Government

18. Information on the position of the territorial Government regarding future status is contained in previous working papers prepared by the United Nations Secretariat. Briefly, the policy of the ruling VIP is to maintain the present relationship with the United Kingdom while seeking greater autonomy in regional affairs (see A/AC.109/1060, paras 21-23).

19. During the period under review, the Territory commemorated its twenty-fifth anniversary of ministerial Government. Also, there was a major development relating to United Kingdom policy and management of its Caribbean dependent

Territories. Following a review of policy and management with respect to its Caribbean dependent territories, the administering Power issued a statement in August 1992 (reproduced in extenso in paragraph 14 of document A/AC.109/1137), which generated public interest and discussion. A summary of related developments is given below.

20. On 28 October 1992, the Chief Minister informed the Legislative Council of his Government's strong objections to a decision by the administering Power to establish a ministerial Board of Management for its Caribbean dependent Territories without representation or input from the Territories concerned. Although the Chief Minister acknowledged that there were some good aspects of the decision which might be worked out in an "affable manner", he insisted that the territorial Government would not be dictated to. The Chief Minister asserted that he would make public the details of the review in order to ascertain the views of the people. Depending on the response of the people, it was likely that a debate in the Legislative Council and request for a constitutional conference on the matter would follow. In that connection, the Government issued a press release on 2 November 1992 which gave the details of the review. 7/

21. A public meeting was held on Tortola on 2 December 1992 to discuss the result of the above-mentioned review. In his statement at the meeting, the Chief Minister stressed that the territorial Government had not been consulted regarding the review. He and other participants noted that a recent pattern had developed in which the United Kingdom issued decrees on the dependent Territories without consultation, principal among which was the decision in 1989 to abolish the death penalty. Mr. Cecil B. Romney, leader of the opposition and a former Chief Minister, suggested that the decision to establish the Board was motivated by the desire of the United Kingdom to exercise more control over the financial sector so as to reserve it for preferred British investors. He stated that the question of the Territory's political evolution should be addressed and that the Territory should begin to consider its ultimate status.

22. Many participants expressed confusion over the results of the review and the role of the administering Power in the Territory. Others expressed anger over the refusal to consult with the people of the Territory and the exclusion of local representatives from the Board of Management. A local businessman who was a panelist at the meeting stated that it would appear that the United Kingdom was only interested in maintaining the status quo and noted that positive change only occurred in the Territories when a progressive government was in office in the United Kingdom. 8/

23. In other developments, it was reported that the Chief Minister had held discussions with representatives of the United Kingdom, including the Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State in the Foreign and Commonwealth Office in July 1992 and with the Economic Secretary to the Treasury in November 1992, on the matter of review of policy and management. Also, prior to the opening of the twenty-first Meeting of Heads of Authority of the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS) in November 1992 in Montserrat, the Chief Ministers of Anguilla, the British Virgin Islands, Montserrat and the Turks and Caicos Islands held a meeting in an attempt to arrive at a common position on the British review of policy and management. The meeting was also attended by the British High Commissioner to Barbados and the Eastern Caribbean, the Governor of

Montserrat and a senior official of the British Development Division in the Caribbean. During the same month, in a statement before the fifth Europe/Caribbean Conference, held at Curaçao, Netherlands Antilles, the Chief Minister said that Caribbean dependent Territories needed to establish forums at which Chief Ministers could discuss common problems. 9/

24. According to press reports in January 1993, the Chief Minister of the Territory attended a meeting of Governors and Chief Ministers, held in Barbados, to discuss the above-mentioned review. Following the meeting, the Chief Minister stated that he was still dissatisfied over the review of policy and management. The Chief Minister noted that while the meeting had helped to clarify some issues between the representatives of the dependent Territories and the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, many of the proposals were still unacceptable to him. He was most displeased over the decision to have Governors act as conduits between the Ministerial Group on Dependent Territories (formerly called the Board of Management) and the dependent Territories. As Chief Minister, he believed that he and not the Governor should speak for the people of the British Virgin Islands. He was pleased that at the meetings an apology had been made concerning the lack of consultation. 10/

25. The Chief Minister said that, despite assurances from the United Kingdom Minister, he was not convinced that the establishment of the Ministerial Group would not result in constitutional encroachment. He added that the meeting was inconclusive and that he would request a meeting in London, at a higher level, to discuss his concerns further (see also paras. 32-33). 10/

26. During the celebrations to commemorate the twenty-fifth anniversary of ministerial Government in the Territory, the question of future status was also raised. The keynote speaker at the recognition ceremony, Mrs. Pearl Varlack, a national of the Territory and a professor of education at the University of the Virgin Islands, emphasized the need to educate the people of the Territory on the political options open to them, in order for their choice to be based on information rather than on emotions. She referred to the Charter of the United Nations, to resolutions concerning small States and the International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism. Professor Varlack challenged the Government of the United Kingdom to support the people of the Territory by providing the necessary dissemination of unbiased information. In a mock Legislative Council debate on the issue of independence held during the celebrations, the Territory's high school students spoke largely in favour of independence for the Territory. 11/

27. On 18 February 1993, the territorial Government made the following announcement: 12/

> "Following the review of Dependent Territories policy and management recently undertaken by the Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO) it has been announced that the first Head of the Dependent Territories Regional Secretariat will be Mr. Richard Kinchen. Mr. Kinchen, aged 45, is a member of Her Majesty's Diplomatic Service. He is currently serving as Counsellor (Finance) in the United Kingdom Mission to the United Nations in New York. He is expected to take up his new appointment in Bridgetown, Barbados in April 1993.

"The Governor has also been advised by the FCO that Mr. Alan Penrith has been selected for the new post of Administrative Secretary within his office. His duties as Administrative Secretary will be to assist His Excellency, the Governor and the Deputy Governor in liaising with the FCO in London and FCO posts around the world on matters such as international conventions and treaties, and to help facilitate access to non-development aid funding from UK sources with relation to areas such as security, environmental protection, and anti-narcotics programmes. The post will have no constitutional status.

"Mr. Penrith, aged 34, is currently on assignment with the British High Commission in Ottawa. He and his family are expected to arrive in the Territory in June 1993."

2. Position of the administering Power

28. During the reporting period, the United Kingdom conducted a review of policy and management of its Caribbean dependent Territories, following which it issued a statement, the full text of which has been reproduced in paragraph 14 of document A/AC.109/1137. In summary, the Government of the United Kingdom announced the decision to establish a London-based Board of Management (renamed Ministerial Group on Dependent Territories) to coordinate the interests and activities of United Kingdom Government departments concerned with Caribbean dependent Territories; and a regional secretariat, based in Barbados, which would implement the decisions of the Group and report to it.

29. Press reports in September stated that Mr. Mark Lennox-Boyd, a British Minister, had visited Anguilla, British Virgin Islands, Montserrat and the Turks and Caicos Islands from 25 to 31 July 1992, and had held discussions with Chief Ministers and government members on administrative arrangements and on areas of reform, in particular a review of policy management. 13/

30. According to the same reports, other aspects of Mr. Lennox-Boyd's visit concerned the matter of good government and the protection of the interests and international reputation of the United Kingdom dependent Territories in the Caribbean. Assistance was offered to frame legislation and economic regulations in the light of recent drug-related and financial scandals, some of which involved politicians and officials from the Territories. The strong offshore financial sector in some dependent Territories and the risk of money-laundering linked to drug-trafficking were reported as factors in making more urgent the decision to provide more resources and to formulate a coordinated approach. 14/

31. Several representatives of the Government of the United Kingdom who visited the Territory defended the review of policy and management and the related decisions. In a press interview during such a visit in November 1992, Mr. Anthony Nelson, a Member of the United Kingdom Parliament and Economic Secretary to the Treasury in the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, responding to local criticism, noted that his Government was determined to coordinate better the management and development of the dependent Territories. Mr. Nelson did not consider that consultations with the people of the Territories were a precondition for establishing the Board. He expressed the view that although the Board must listen carefully to the voices of the dependent Territories, it

was not a council of ministers which was engaged in self-governance. A Board of Management had been established to coordinate more efficiently and effectively the substantial commitment from defence to aid assistance, which the United Kingdom already provided to its dependent Territories. He pointed out that the role of the Board was expected to evolve. He was hopeful that the Board would take into account local opinion and that it would not be subjected to special interests lobbying for specific projects. 14/

32. At a press interview in January 1993, following meetings in Barbados earlier in the same month of Governors and Chief Ministers and of Ambassadors, High Commissioners and Governors, the Governor of the British Virgin Islands told local reporters that having Governors act as conduits between the Territories and the new Ministerial Group did not represent a change in policy. He noted that there was no change in the role of the Governor, who had always conveyed official messages from the Territory to London. 10/

33. The Governor added that all of the Chief Ministers had expressed their gratitude that Mr. Lennox-Boyd had responded so quickly to their concerns. He pointed out that the formation of the Ministerial Group would result in the availability of a greater range of expertise from London to tackle the growing number of issues facing the dependent Territories. Previously, such expertise had not been available from the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, which until that time was solely responsible for dealing with the Territories. The Governor said that he would meet with the Chief Minister to discuss his concerns. 15/

3. Action taken by the General Assembly

34. On 25 November 1992, the General Assembly adopted a consolidated resolution (47/27) on 10 dependent Territories, a section of which was specifically devoted to the Territory (resolution 47/27B, sect. IV). In its resolution, the Assembly reiterated its call upon the administering Power to facilitate the admission of the Territory to associate membership in the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), as well as its participation in other regional and international organizations; called upon the administering Power to provide the Territory with the necessary assistance to mitigate the adverse effects of hurricane Hugo and to facilitate the provision of additional assistance and funds to the Territory from international organizations and specialized agencies. It welcomed the efforts by the territorial Government to raise the quality of the labour force and to meet the trained labour requirements of public service through its development plan for education. The Assembly called upon the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) to continue its technical assistance to the Territory, bearing in mind the vulnerability of the Territory to external economic factors and the scarcity of skilled workers; and expressed its satisfaction at the consideration being given by the United Nations Children's Fund to the continuation of its five-year Multi-island Programme aimed at improving education, health and social services in the Territory. The Assembly noted with satisfaction the measures being taken by the territorial Government to prevent drug trafficking and money laundering, and urged the administering Power to continue its assistance to the Territory in those endeavours. The Assembly urged the regional and international financial institutions, as well as the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, to assist the territorial Government in identifying its

medium- and long-term needs and to increase their participation in the full recovery of the Territory.

E. External relations

35. The British Virgin Islands is an associate member of the International Labour Organisation (ILO), the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean and its subsidiary bodies, including the Caribbean Development and Coordination Committee. The Territory is also represented at meetings of the Caribbean Group for Cooperation in Economic Development sponsored by the World Bank. The Territory has expressed an interest in joining FAO. The Chief Minister represented the Territory at the United Nations Conference on the Environment and Development held at Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, in June 1992.

36. The Territory is an associate member of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) and OECS, and participates in the activities of those organizations and their associated institutions, including the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB) and the University of the West Indies (UWI). The Territory was represented by the Deputy Chief Minister at the thirteenth Conference of Heads of Government of CARICOM, held at Port-of-Spain, from 29 June to 2 July 1992. The Chief Minister represented the Territory at the twenty-first Meeting of Heads of Authority of OECS, which was held in Montserrat in November 1992. The Minister for Education, Health and Welfare attended the Extraordinary Meeting of the Council of the UWI in Jamaica in January 1993. In March 1992, the Territory became an associate member of the Trinidad-based Caribbean Association of National Telecommunications Organizations.

37. During the period under review, the British Virgin Islands continued to participate directly in regional and international conferences and programmes organized by Governments, international organizations and multilateral agencies. In that connection, the Chief Minister attended the fifth Europe/Caribbean Conference in Curaçao, Netherlands Antilles, in November 1992, and addressed the session on the dependent Territories and the European Community. 9/ Both the Governor and the Chief Minister attended a special meeting of Governors and Chief Ministers in Barbados on 12 January 1993. While in Barbados, the Governor also participated in a conference for United Kingdom Governors, High Commissioners and Ambassadors in the region. Following the meetings, the Governors of Anguilla and the British Virgin Islands were expected to visit the Netherlands Antilles at the invitation of the Government of the Netherlands to discuss matters relating to law and order. 16/ The Deputy Governor attended a workshop on Public Administration in the Caribbean, held at Port-of-Spain from 7 to 10 December 1992. The Minister for Health, Education and Welfare visited Canada and the United Kingdom in March 1992. In June 1992, a parliamentary delegation from the Territory, comprising the Minister for Health, Education and Welfare, the Speaker of the Legislative Council and the Leader of the Opposition visited Australia, Malaysia and the United Kingdom. In October, another delegation comprising the Speaker and the Assistant Clerk to the Legislative Council attended the thirty-eighth Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference in the Bahamas. The Police Commissioner and the Deputy Commissioner attended conferences on police matters in London and the Caribbean, in September and December 1992, respectively. 17/

38. The Territory received visits from high-level representatives of the administering Power, other Governments and regional and international organizations. As previously reported, the Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State in the Foreign and Commonwealth Office accompanied by officials of the Foreign and Commonwealth Office and the British Development Division in the Caribbean visited the Territory in July 1992. Another Minister of the Government of the United Kingdom, the Economic Secretary to the Treasury of the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, accompanied by officials of the United Kingdom Treasury, visited the Territory on 5 November on his way to a meeting of the Caribbean Financial Action Task Force held in Jamaica the following week. In January 1993, the territorial Government announced that His Royal Highness Prince Philip, the Duke of Edinburgh, would pay an official visit to the Territory on 18 March 1993. His Royal Highness last visited the Territory in 1977 when he accompanied Her Majesty the Queen. 18/

39. A five-member delegation of the European Community, led by the Deputy Director-General for Development, visited the Territory in February 1992 to sign an agreement with the territorial Government for US$ 2.9 million 19/ under the Lomé IV regime. Officials of CDB visited the Territory in March 1992 to inspect ongoing projects financed by the Bank. 20/

40. During the review period, the Territory hosted a number of workshops and conferences, including, in February 1992, a two-week training seminar sponsored by the Social Security Board and attended by senior officials from 13 English-speaking Caribbean countries, and the ninth Conference of Presiding Officers of the Caribbean, the Americas and the Atlantic Region of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association, which was held in the Territory in May 1992. The territorial Government announced in October 1992 that the United Kingdom would host a Conference of Customs Officers from the Caribbean, Central America, Canada, the United Kingdom and the United States in the Territory in 1993. 21/

41. The twentieth annual United States Virgin Islands/British Virgin Islands Friendship Day was celebrated on 3 October 1992 on St. Thomas, United States Virgin Islands. In his statement on that occasion, the Chief Minister noted that, since 1990, the revitalization of the Inter-Virgin Islands Conference had been successful and that cooperation had been established in many areas, including disaster preparedness, drug trafficking and interdiction and marine affairs, all of which have been beneficial to both Territories. The fourth Meeting of the Inter-Virgin Islands Conference was held in the Territory earlier in 1992. 22/

F. Public service

42. There were 1,203 established posts in the Territory's civil service in 1992. As a result of a reorganization of the civil service two new departments were created, one being the Financial Services Inspectorate and the other resulting from the separation of the former Ministry of Health, Education and Welfare, into the Ministry of Health and Welfare and the Ministry of Education and Culture. There was no change in the ministerial portfolios.

43. In the 1992 Budget Speech, delivered on 27 February 1992 to the Legislative Council, Mr. Ralph T. O'Neal, Acting Chief Minister and Minister for Finance, stressed the importance the territorial Government placed on education, in particular on retaining and attracting the best talent the Territory needed to perform effectively its duties in a changing and increasingly complex environment. He noted that the Government had commissioned a classification of civil service posts in order to bring them closer to, or on a par with, those in the private service. According to the Acting Chief Minister, the Civil Service Training Division would organize a series of in-service training courses to cover all levels of the civil service. Civil servants also attended conferences and workshops overseas, including in Canada, the Caribbean and the United Kingdom. It was reported in December 1992 that a consultant on public sector management who was appointed by the Commonwealth Fund for Technical Cooperation visited the Territory in connection with the classification exercise. 23/

44. During the period under review, the following appointments of senior government officials were reported. In October 1992, a national of the Territory, Miss Dancia Penn was appointed as Attorney-General; also, Mr. Vernon Malone, another national, was appointed as Commissioner of Police. In December 1992, Mr. Daniel Olsen, a United Kingdom national, was appointed as Deputy Commissioner of Police; also 11 new recruits joined the Territory's police force bringing its strength to 132. At the welcoming ceremony, the Governor announced that on the recommendation of Mr. Lionel Grundy, the United Kingdom Inspector-General of the Dependent Territories Police Force, a review of relations between the police and the public would be undertaken to determine how those relations could be improved. It was reported earlier that Mr. Grundy had visited the Territory and had conducted a review of the police force following a series of attacks on police stations and an increase in violent crimes. The review cited, among other things, a lack of community help. 24/

Other developments

45. Although there are no military installations in the British Virgin Islands, the Territory remains a port of call for naval vessels of the United Kingdom and the United States. During the period under review, the territorial Government reported the visits or proposed visits of the following vessels: HMS Cardiff in company with a support vessel (July 1992), HMS Alacrity (January 1993) and HMS Birmingham (February 1993). 25/

III. ECONOMIC CONDITIONS

A. General

46. The economy of the British Virgin Islands is dependent on tourism, banking, real estate development, construction and government services. Agriculture and manufacturing activities continue to play a secondary role. The CDB reported that the growth of the economy of the Territory slowed in 1991 following a decrease in domestic consumption and private investment as commercial banks restricted credit. Another factor was the poor performance of the tourism sector. Real Gross Domestic Product expanded by only 2 per cent in 1991 compared to 8.5 per cent in 1990, despite exceptionally high public sector capital expenditure. Per capita income was estimated at US$ 9,946 in 1990.

47. In his 1992 Budget Speech, the Acting Chief Minister and Minister for Finance noted that the Territory's 1992 budget was being introduced against a backdrop of a weak global economy, a limping though resilient British Virgin Islands economy, and a gradual decline in the availability of concessionary funding. Earlier in the same statement, the Acting Chief Minister informed the Legislative Council that as a result of 14 years of prudent management, the Territory had progressed from receiving budgetary assistance from the United Kingdom, although it relied almost exclusively on external resource of funding for its capital development programmes. According to the Acting Chief Minister, the Territory had been informed by the administering Power that capital aid would cease following the 1990-1992 allocation of £3 million. The Territory was assured, however, that such a decision did not preclude special assistance in certain areas which were still in need of development assistance.

48. In January 1993, the Governor stated that capital assistance from the United Kingdom would be eliminated because of the Territory's high per capita income. He expressed the view that the Territory would have greater access to other aid sources with the establishment of the new Ministerial Group on Dependent Territories, which would coordinate the allocation of capital assistance from the Overseas Development Administration, as well as other funding sources. The Governor also said that he expected technical cooperation funding to continue. 14/

49. The representative of UNDP, speaking before the Fourth Committee on 19 October 1992, stated that the British Virgin Islands was among three Caribbean Territories which were expected to reach net contributor status during the current programming cycle (1992-1996). It was noted, however, that these Territories would continue to receive assistance through other programme sources of UNDP (see also paras. 78 and 79). 26/

B. Public finance

50. On 1 April 1992, the Legislative Council approved the budget estimates for 1992. Recurrent revenue was estimated at approximately US$ 54.5 million (revised estimates for 1991 were US$ 50.8 million). Tax revenue accounted for US$ 26.3 million, non-tax revenue (licences, rent and investments and royalties on the sale of coins) was estimated at US$ 15.9 million, and other non-tax receipts, including government services, were estimated at US$ 12.2 million. Recurrent expenditure for 1992 was estimated at US$ 48 million. The estimated surplus of approximately US$ 6.5 million was to be allocated to the capital fund to assist in funding the Territory's capital development programme for the fiscal year 1992.

51. Distribution of expenditure in 1992 was as follows: Consolidated fund services, 9.1 per cent (8.3 per cent in 1991); Ministry of Communication and Works, 19.5 per cent (19 per cent in 1991); Ministry of Education and Culture, 17.8 per cent; Ministry of Health and Welfare, 16 per cent (in 1991 the Ministry of Health, Education and Welfare was allocated 35.4 per cent); Office of the Chief Minister/Ministry of Finance, 17.5 per cent (17.8 per cent in 1991); non-ministerial departments, 14.8 per cent (14.1 per cent in 1991); and the Ministry of Natural Resources and Labour, 5.3 per cent (5.5 per cent in 1991).

52. In the introduction to the above budget estimate, the Acting Chief Minister reiterated the commitment of the territorial Government to the principles of a balanced budget wherein sufficient savings would be generated to fund not only much needed capital projects but also to re-commence the rebuilding of the Territory's reserves, which stood at US$ 9.9 million. In the same speech, the Acting Chief Minister noted that the Territory had the capacity to service its current and long-term debt. In 1992, debt-servicing obligations of approximately US$ 1.3 million (or 2 per cent of estimated revenue) had increased by 40 per cent from US$ 921,700.00 in 1991. Total loans amounted to US$ 30 million, of which US$ 9.2 million were relatively soft loans with an annual interest of 4 percent or less.

53. The Legislative Council approved a capital budget of US$ 27.5 million from the following sources: recurrent budget, US$ 6.4 million; other local receipts, US$ 2.6 million; external aid, US$ 1.6 million; external borrowing, US$ 6.9 million; and domestic borrowing, US$ 10 million.

54. The Acting Chief Minister expressed the appreciation of the territorial Government to its traditional donors, mainly the United Kingdom, and the European Community, CDB, UNDP, the Commonwealth Fund for Technical Cooperation, the Canadian International Development Agency, the International Development Research Centre and the United States Agency for International Development (USAID).

C. Land development and construction

55. CDB reported that in 1991 there was a reduction in construction activity, partly as a result of new lending restrictions imposed by commercial banks. The decline in private sector activity was partially offset by a sharp increase in public sector activity. Major public sector projects that were implemented during the year included the central administration complex, the main building of the British Virgin Islands Community College, a port development project and several road and water projects throughout the Territory.

56. In its Quarterly Economic Bulletin, the Development Planning Unit stated that 71 building plans had been approved during the first quarter of 1992 with a total estimated value of US$ 185.4 million. Of these, 58 were residential with a value of US$ 99.8 million and three industrial, valued at US$ 85.1 million. There were plans for eight commercial properties valued at US$ 177,000, and the hotels and related properties were estimated at US$ 315,000.

57. In his Budget Speech in February 1992, the Acting Chief Minister told the Legislative Council that the construction sector was the main growth area in 1991. He said that it was important to note that those projects set the stage for the next level of growth in the Territory and that the multiplier effect of expenditures benefited all sectors of the economy during a period when it was needed most.

58. The Acting Chief Minister also announced the acquisition of land by the Government for residential and commercial development for meaningful involvement of nationals in the Territory's future development.

D. Agriculture, livestock and fisheries

59. In its report on the Territory for 1991, CDB stated that efforts to increase food crop and livestock production had been intensified. In the food crop subsector, new water storage and irrigation facilities had been installed and farmers had been trained in various aspects of soil and water conservation. Farmers had also received assistance with the adoption of measures aimed at pest and disease control. In the livestock subsector, efforts had been concentrated on improving the breed of local animals through the importation, breeding and distribution of high quality farm animals to small farmers. Efforts to transform the local poultry industry had continued. In the fisheries subsector, the fish catch had remained low owing to inefficiencies in the marketing and distribution systems and inadequacies in fishing equipment and training.

60. During the period under review, the following major developments were reported. In December 1992, a draft fisheries management plan was submitted to the Government. The plan, which covers a 10-year period, outlined the present status and the development goals of the industry. In February 1993, the Chief Agricultural Officer informed the Rotary Club that the territorial Government had shifted its policy from government-owned operations and subsistence farming to more modern farming operations. A plot of land was being approved for distribution to 32 farmers later that month. He stated that the goals of the Government were to increase agricultural production and reduce the import food bill. As much land as possible for vegetable and livestock production would be made available and priority would be given to attracting the younger generation into farming as a profitable profession. The Chief Agricultural Officer indicated that a local species of pure bred sheep was being promoted for export to Saint Lucia. The programme also included the export of other livestock, such as cattle, goats and poultry. It was also reported that egg production in 1993 was expected to be lower than the 24,800 dozen eggs which were produced locally in 1992. 27/

61. In other developments, it was reported that the Government would review the Anegada Reef project to determine whether to re-open the reef to fishermen and yachts. The reef was closed in February 1991 in an effort to reclaim it as a prime breeding ground for popular reef fish. The project which was funded by OECS provided data on coral growth and on fish stocks on which the review would be based. 28/ In December 1992, the Territory's Conservation and Fisheries Department announced that it would conduct a survey on marine mammals, including hump-back whales, in order to determine the number of animals visiting the Territory's waters, as well as to identify important feeding, breeding and calving areas, so that these areas could be protected in future. According to press reports, approximately 38 to 48 whales and six to eight calves were sighted. The peak period of such sightings was between January and February. 29/

E. Industrial development and mining

62. CDB reported that manufacturing output (rum and garment production) declined slightly in 1991, mainly as a result of unfavourable performance of the tourism industry. Although manufacturing activity was reported to be at its lowest level during the first quarter of 1991, towards the end of 1991 output

started to rise, which indicated that the cash flow problems which firms encountered with falling domestic and external demand were being overcome.

63. According to CDB, despite the slow-down in industrial activity during 1991, the Government's industrial policy continued to be directed towards the development of efficient import-substituting industries, including the expansion of enterprises engaged in food processing (fish and poultry), and the establishment of small-scale enterprises.

64. In April 1992, the Territory hosted the Board Meeting of the Eastern Caribbean Investment Promotion Service (ECIPS). The Board Meeting was preceded by a meeting of general managers of industrial development corporations of OECS member countries. The Washington-based ECIPS was established by OECS with the assistance of USAID as part of an investment promotion and export development project for the encouragement of trade and business opportunities between OECS countries and the United States. 30/ The Chief Minister led a delegation to the Europe/Caribbean Conference held in Curaçao, Netherlands Antilles (see para. 23), at which trade relations between the Caribbean and the European Community were discussed. 31/

F. Communications and other basic facilities

65. The development of the Territory's physical infrastructure has continued to be a priority of the Government. The Acting Chief Minister in the introduction of the 1992 Budget Estimates recalled that the Government's capital development projects were based on a three-year plan and included:

(a) Construction of a new airport terminal;

(b) Expansion of the airport runway;

(c) Implementation of water-supply projects on Virgin Gorda and Sea Cows Bay;

(d) Construction of a psychiatric wing and a mortuary at Peebles Hospital;

(e) Construction of a new prison building;

(f) Construction of resource centres at some primary schools;

(g) Improvements to the national roads network;

(h) Construction of the British Virgin Islands High School (senior sector);

(i) Reconstruction of sea-defence walls;

(j) Continuation of road resurfacing on Anegada.

66. In its Quarterly Economic Bulletin, the Development Planning Unit reported that the following projects were under implementation during the first quarter of 1992: port development estimated at US$ 16 million, funded by CDB and the

European Investment Bank; the Central Administration Complex costing US$ 18.2 million which was 39 per cent completed; a solid waste incinerator costing US$ 3.5 million (financed by Nova Scotia Bank (70 per cent) and the territorial Government (30 per cent)). Projects under preparation/negotiation included the British Virgin Islands Community College library (US$ 1.8 million); the high school (US$ 25 million); the Beef Island terminal building (US$ 10.5 million); the psychiatric, morgue and medical wings (US$ 3.5 million); and the prison building (US$ 5.3 million). Phase one of the sea-defence wall construction along Drakes Highway, costing US$ 3.8 million, 80 per cent of which was financed by CDB and 20 per cent by the territorial Government, was completed.

67. In December 1992, nearly two years after the Territory's airline, Air BVI, was grounded, a new airline Atlantic Air, inaugurated its service to the Territory. A spokesman for the British company, Atlantic Estates, PLC, which purchased the assets of Air BVI in February 1992, stated that the delay in starting the service arose because clearance had to be obtained from the United Kingdom and United States Governments. Initially, Atlantic Air would have three daily flights between San Juan and Tortola. The service to Virgin Gorda was expected to begin in mid-January 1993, just in time to replace that of American Eagle, a subsidiary of American Airlines, following its decision to cancel its service to the island. 32/

68. Cable and Wireless (West Indies), Limited, continued to provide telecommunications services to the Territory. In December 1992, an undersea fibre optic telephone cable system linking the Territory with Puerto Rico and the United States Virgin Islands went into service. The system which cost US$ 17 million has the capability to carry 225,000 simultaneous telephone conversations. A spokesman for the company said that the new system, which would provide the necessary transmission facilities to bring on new technology in years to come, would be provided at the current rates. With the installation of the new system, the British Virgin Islands will act as a telecommunications centre for the Eastern Caribbean. 33/

69. In another development, the Territory hosted the 13th annual meeting of CARIBREST, a forum of 32 international telecommunications administrations from the Caribbean, and North, Central and South America. The main item on the agenda of the forum was how to organize, review and implement restoration procedures to telecommunications in the event of natural disasters. The timing of the meeting in June coincided with the start of the 1992 hurricane season. 34/

G. International business and finance

70. Growth in the Territory's offshore business sector continued to be vibrant in 1991 as new international business companies incorporated in the Territory rose to 14,894 during the first 11 months of the year. Revenue from this source rose by 365 per cent, to US$ 18.7 million. In order to encourage further growth as an offshore financial centre, new legislation governing the conduct of offshore operations was enacted during 1991 (see A/AC.109/1100, para. 64).

71. In its report on the Territory for 1991, CDB reported that commercial bank deposits increased by 8.2 per cent to US$ 344 million, and loans and advances increased by 2.1 per cent, to US$ 165.3 million. The ratio of loans to deposits declined from 50.9 per cent in 1990 to 48 per cent in 1991. During the first nine months of 1991, commercial lending to the construction sector increased by 14.8 per cent to US$ 36.9 million. A substantial part of this funding involved a loan by a consortium of four commercial banks to the territorial Government for the construction of a central administration complex. Credit for the purchase of real estate declined by 47.8 per cent to US$ 9 million.

72. In his 1992 Budget Speech delivered in February 1992, the Acting Chief Minister stated that at the end of 1991 the number of international business companies stood at 16,000. He attributed the strong performance in this sector to a combination of factors, including the effectiveness of the International Business Companies Act and the efficiency and high professional standards of the service rendered by private sector professionals and government commercial registry personnel to the international business community. It was subsequently reported that Mr. Michael Holden, a citizen of the United Kingdom, had been appointed as the Territory's Inspector of Banks and Trust Companies under the Technical Cooperation Scheme of the United Kingdom Ministry of the Overseas Development Administration. Mr. Holden, whose appointment is for two years, would ensure that regulatory requirements of the 1990 Banks and Trust Companies Act are implemented. 35/

73. It was reported in November 1992 that officials from the Caribbean and the United States had agreed to join forces to combat insurance fraud. The Territory's Insurance Commissioner, who had recently attended a conference in Atlanta, Georgia, the previous month, stated that the main objective of the conference was to enhance cooperation between the various Caribbean and United States insurance authorities. The Commissioner noted that recent legislation had almost eliminated illegal activity in this subsector. Of the 1,000 insurance companies operating in the Territory, about 12 were believed to be engaged in illegal activities. He noted as well that in the past two years, approximately 650 insurance companies, most of which were dormant, had been removed from the register of companies. In January 1993, a further 28 insurance companies were removed from the register. 36/

H. Tourism and related activities

74. Visitor arrivals for 1991 were 295,332, a decline of 7.6 per cent below the 1990 figure. Stopover visitor arrivals decreased even further by 20.1 per cent to 147,030. Cruise ship arrivals also declined by 0.9 per cent to 94,295. The number of excursionists rose, however, by 3.6 per cent to 47,594. Business visitors increased by 2.4 per cent to 6,403. The decrease in stopover arrivals was associated with, among other factors, the adverse effects of the Gulf War during the first quarter, the economic recession in major tourist markets and a reduction in passenger service to the Territory as a consequence of the failure of the locally owned air carrier, Air BVI.

75. According to CDB, in order to boost the number of stopover visitors to the Territory, the Board of Tourism and private hoteliers had intensified their marketing and promotional effort in North American and European markets during

the second half of 1991. During the year, hotel room capacity increased by 5.7 per cent, to approximately 1,185 rooms. The average length of stay increased from 7.3 nights in 1990 to 8.8 nights in 1991. With the overall decline in arrivals, tourist expenditure was estimated at US$ 109.4 million, a decline of 17.2 per cent from 1990.

76. The Acting Chief Minister informed the Legislative Council in February 1992 that tourism was still the Territory's leading industry with significant linkages with other sectors of the economy, and that the territorial Government must do all in its power to ensure that such productive sectors remained viable. In that connection, he pointed out that the subvention to the Tourist Board would be increased to US$ 1.87 million in 1992. He reiterated that the marketing strategy for Europe would include raising the level of awareness regarding the Territory in Europe; increasing the number of tour operators; featuring small inns, villas and yachting activities; and increasing the Territory's benefits from European Community Caribbean tourism programmes.

77. In December 1992, the Director of the Territory's Tourist Board expressed optimism that the winter season from 15 December 1992 to 15 April 1993 would be better than that of the previous year. Noting that local hoteliers and charter yacht operators shared his optimism, the Director disclosed that an informal survey conducted by the Board on advance bookings was encouraging. The charter yacht industry which had also suffered a decline in activity in 1991 expected to benefit from consumer confidence and from a new strategy by the territorial Government aimed at attracting boaters to the Territory. The Director stated that advanced bookings for one company were 30 per cent higher than in the previous year. 32/

I. Assistance from specialized agencies and other organizations and institutions of the United Nations system

78. The UNDP Resident Representative for the Eastern Caribbean also serves as Resident Coordinator of the Operational Activities of the United Nations system for the Territory. Since the Territory has a high per capita income, UNDP has noted that negotiations were continuing regarding its net contributor status and that the second country programme was extended for one year. An Indicative Planning Figure of US$ 102,000 was allocated to the Territory for the period from 1992 to 1996 pending the decision of the Governing Council at its special session in February 1993. 37/

79. According to UNDP, external assistance from United Nations sources in 1991 totalled US$ 76,000 and an additional US$ 20,000 had been planned for 1992. Assistance from these sources was as follows:

(In thousands of United States dollars)

United Nations sources	1991	1992
UNCHS (area development)	46	20
UNICEF (human resources development)	15	
UNDP (natural resources sector)	8	
UNV (technical assistance)	7	—
	76	20

J. External debt and trade

80. Public and publicly guaranteed external debt increased from US$ 24.2 million at the end of 1990 to US$ 30.9 million at the end of 1991. Debt-service obligations remained low, however, amounting to US$ 1.3 million or 2.5 per cent of the revenue of the territorial Government in 1991.

81. The value of the Territory's imports for 1991 was estimated at US$ 108.3 million, compared to US$ 135 million in 1990. The current account deficit widened in 1991, however, as visible exports remained negligible and tourism earnings (the major source of export earnings) declined by 12.6 per cent.

IV. SOCIAL CONDITIONS

A. Labour

82. CDB reported that in 1991 the lack of a balanced workforce which could satisfy the skills demanded by the tourism and financial sectors continued to be one of the more critical constraints to economic growth in the Territory. According to CDB, increased efforts were therefore required to develop technical skills and to accelerate the placement of nationals in key managerial, technical and professional jobs. Otherwise, the country would become increasingly dependent on foreign labour which, through remittances and the use of local facilities and services, constituted a growing drain on local resources.

83. CDB noted, however, that the territorial Government was aware of that issue and, as such, the authorities intended to improve access to educational training facilities, re-orient its school curricula and increase the effectiveness of educational programmes so as to meet the trained manpower needs of the Territory.

84. During 1991, the territorial Government, with the help of foreign donors, began to tackle the unskilled manpower problems through the expansion of training at secondary and tertiary levels in the British Virgin Islands Community College. Areas of special priority of the Government's training programme include accounting, marketing and finance.

85. In October 1992, the Chief Labour Officer reportedly estimated that between 800 and 1,000 foreigners were working without appropriate documentation. 38/

B. Public health

86. The Territory continued to be served by the Peebles Hospital on Tortola and by a number of health clinics throughout the Territory. A private hospital also serves the Territory.

87. In February 1992, the Acting Chief Minister announced to the Legislative Council that as part of the Government's commitment to social and economic development, provision had been made from local resources, inter alia, to continue to establish multi-purpose centres in various areas throughout the Territory. He also announced a three-year capital development programme containing provision for a psychiatric wing and mortuary at the Peebles Hospital. In September, it was reported that major improvements had been planned for the government-owned 55 bed hospital over the next four years, which would include an additional 20 beds, two intensive care units and rehabilitation of the maternity ward. The cost of these improvements was estimated at between US$ 5 million and US$ 6 million. 39/

88. In June 1991, six cases of acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS) and AIDS-related illnesses were diagnosed in the Territory. Three of the six persons who had an advanced form of AIDS have since died. The Director of Primary Health Care stated at a training workshop for local health care workers that only a limited number of the workers had been trained to counsel those persons who were being tested for the human immunodeficiency virus. Also, studies of groups of people, including those at high risk, could not be done because of the shortage of trained personnel. 40/

89. It was reported in December 1992 that the seventh annual British Virgin Islands Workshop in Plastic Surgery and the fifteenth annual British Virgin Islands Medical Conference would be held in the Territory from 25 to 29 January 1993 and from 1 to 5 February 1993, respectively. The medical conference and workshop continued to be sponsored by the Butterworth Hospital of Grand Rapids, Michigan, the territorial Government and the British Virgin Islands Medical and Dental Associations. 33/

C. Crime prevention and drugs

90. Press reports indicate that although the number of crimes reported in the Territory for the period ending in June 1992 continued to be "unprecedentedly low", there was an increase in serious crimes in 1991 and 1992. During the first six months of 1992, the number of crimes reported was 431 as compared with 427 over the same period in 1991. Those figures, however, did not include drug-related crimes. In 1991, the number of crimes reported was 762, a 15 per cent decline from the 893 crimes reported in 1990. The Commissioner of Police noted, however, that over the past two years serious crimes were a cause for concern. During the six-month period ending in June 1992, those crimes included eight firearms violations (four in 1991), seven attacks on police stations since October 1991 and several armed robberies. It was subsequently reported that the

Commissioner of Police stated that four homicides in the Territory in 1992 (none in 1991) were related to drug trafficking. 41/ The United Kingdom Inspector-General of the Dependent Territories Police Force conducted a review of the Territory's police in relation to the increase in serious crime.

91. On 15 May 1992, the Legislative Council passed the Drug (Prevention of Misuse) (Amendment) Act, 1992, and the Drug Trafficking Offences Act, 1992. Provisions were made under the latter Act for the recovery of proceeds of drug trafficking. 42/ It was reported in June 1992 that the United States Drug Enforcement Agency had provided the territorial Government with US$ 1.8 million as a second instalment of assets forfeited by convicted drug dealers and money launderers in the United States. 43/

92. In a related development, it was reported that as a result of a decision taken at the Caribbean Financial Action Task Force Ministerial Conference on Money-Laundering, held in Jamaica in November 1992, a secretariat would be established within four months in Trinidad and Tobago to monitor and evaluate the fight against drug trafficking and money-laundering in the Caribbean and Latin America. The Conference was attended by 70 representatives from some 30 countries in the Caribbean and North, Central and Latin America and Europe, as well as from regional and international organizations. 44/

V. EDUCATIONAL CONDITIONS

93. Education in the Territory is free and compulsory for all children between 5 and 14 years of age. During the period under review, the territorial Government continued to give priority to strengthening the educational system of the Territory. Statements by several senior members and officials of the Government emphasized the importance of the British Virgin Island Community College in providing the necessary training needs of the people of the Territory. In his Budget Speech delivered in February 1992, in outlining both recurrent and capital expenditure on education, the Acting Chief Minister stressed the fact that the British Virgin Island Community College provided assurances to the majority of people of the Territory who could benefit from present and future opportunities. It was subsequently reported that among its courses, the Community College would offer a two-year programme for elementary teachers. The course would be monitored by the University of the West Indies. 45/

94. In December 1992, five resource centres were handed over to the Chief Education Officer. The centres, funded by CDB, USAID and the territorial Government, would provide the elementary schools with modern audio, video and computer equipment. 23/

Notes

1/ The information contained in this paper has been derived from published reports, including the Caribbean Development Bank Annual Report 1991.

2/ The Island Sun (Tortola), 18, 20 June 1992 and 15 August 1992.

3/ Ibid., 2 January 1993.

4/ Ibid., 31 October and 5 December 1992, and 14, 16 and 21 January 1993.

5/ The Beacon (Tortola), 26 November 1992; see also The Island Sun (Tortola), 28 November 1992.

6/ The Island Sun (Tortola), 6 February 1993.

7/ Department of Information and Public Relations, News Release No. 262R/92.

8/ The Island Sun (Tortola), 3 December 1992.

9/ Ibid., 7, 14 and 21 November 1992.

10/ Ibid., 23 January 1993.

11/ Ibid., 5 December 1992; see also The Beacon (Tortola), 26 November 1992.

12/ Department of Information and Public Relations, News Release No. 036R/93.

13/ Caribbean Insight (London), vol. 15, No. 11, September 1992.

14/ The Beacon (Tortola), 12 November 1992; see also The Island Sun (Tortola), 14 November 1992.

15/ The Beacon (Tortola), 28 January 1993.

16/ The Beacon (Tortola), 14 January 1993; see also The Island Sun (Tortola), 16 January 1993.

17/ Department of Information and Public Relations, News Release Nos. 075R/92, 129R/92, 222R/92, 247R/92, 286R/92 and 288R/92.

18/ Ibid., News Release Nos. 177R/92, 269R/92 and 004R/93.

19/ The local currency is the United States dollar.

20/ Ibid., News Release Nos. 047R/92 and 083R/92.

21/ Ibid., News Release Nos. 120R/92 and 241R/92.

22/ The Island Sun (Tortola), 14 November 1992.

23/ Ibid., 12 December 1992.

24/ The Beacon (Tortola), 10 December 1992; The Island Sun (Tortola), 12 December 1992.

25/ Department of Information and Public Relations, News Release Nos. 173R/92, 009R/93 and 019R/93.

26/ A/C.4/47/SR.5.

27/ The Beacon (Tortola), 17 December 1992 and 4 February 1993.

28/ Ibid., 23 July 1992.

29/ Ibid., 17 December 1992; The Island Sun (Tortola), 19 December 1992.

30/ The Island Sun (Tortola), 25 April 1992.

31/ Ibid., 21 November 1992.

32/ The Beacon (Tortola), 17 December 1992.

33/ Ibid., 10 December 1992.

34/ The Island Sun (Tortola), 16 May 1992.

35/ Ibid., 31 October 1992.

36/ The Beacon (Tortola), 5 November 1992; see also The Island Sun (Tortola), 23 January 1993.

37/ DP/CP/BVI/2/Extension 1.

38/ The Beacon (Tortola), 1 October 1992.

39/ The Daily News (United States Virgin Islands), 25 September 1992.

40/ The Beacon (Tortola), 25 June 1992.

41/ The Beacon (Tortola), 27 August 1992; see also The Daily News (United States Virgin Islands), 26 November 1992.

42/ The Island Sun (Tortola), 23 May 1992.

43/ Caribbean Insight (London), Vol. 15, No. 6, June 1992.

44/ The Island Sun (Tortola), 14 November 1992.

45/ The Daily News (United States Virgin Islands), 29 July 1992.